

## FOR BILL 69 High Rise Fire Suppression Systems

Each high rise building constructed in Hawaii, required that the developer's plan, including fire suppression methods, had to be approved by the City and County of Honolulu's Planning Department.

Every year the City and County Fire Department comes to our buildings at Waikalani Woodlands, and inspects our overall systems which include, but are not limited to: open walkways, an indoor stairwell, exterior stairwells at each end of each building, alarms on every floor, signage for fire fighters to navigate the building in the interior stairwell, fire hoses on every floor with available water at each hose, etc. Elevators are inspected with fire phones to emergency services within the cab. The greatest distance any resident would have to navigate to completely exit the building is 8 floors. As indicated, there are three exit stairways for each floor.

If every building is required to have the in-depth fire inspections that are required by our buildings, it is more than adequate to serve the condo high rise communities.

Our buildings and parking garages are concrete. Forcing owners to install sprinklers will leave pipes showing throughout the apartment's ceilings and walls. Insurance companies recommend to owners with HO6 insurance to have fire alarms installed. Buildings with well-trained Resident Managers, and serious Boards of Directors stress safety on many levels in high rise living. Fire safety is a priority.

Condo Association Boards are charged by the state of Hawaii to be fiduciaries for the Association members. It is the responsibility of each Association to make policy for safety, but not impose Special Assessments on the owners who for the most part would experience financial hardship. It is not the responsibility of others in our broader community to pay our way to safety. Follow the existing laws, and have buildings inspected, and fined if they do not follow the fire personnels' recommendations. Our Board recommends fire extinguishers in each unit, and has provided sessions to demonstrate the use of the equipment. We encourage our senior citizens to meet their next door neighbors to arrange any future assistance needed if a fire is started. Our buildings were built from 1974 to 1978.

Any Bill needs to carve out certain exemptions for buildings that have long included upgrading and cooperation with fire specialists/personnel.

Respectfully submitted

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